

*United States Department Of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Poultry Programs, Market News Branch
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The President has issued an Executive order declaring Friday, December 26, a holiday. In observance of the holidays, Poultry Market News will be closed December 25-26. Reports normally released on Friday, December 26, will be issued Wednesday, December 24, if sufficient information is available. If you have questions regarding this report, call the telephone number herein.

December 24, 2003

Live Light Type Hens

*** Cents Per Bird Generally For Removal Within Next 10 Days***

(Includes handling, freight and any other charges, weights average about 3.50 pounds)

	Removal Cost	
	Range	Majority
Eastern Region	0 - 12	10 - 11.00
South Central Region	TFEWR	TFEWR
North Central Region	0 - 12.50	10 - 12.25

Live Heavy Type Hens (7 Lb & Up)

**Preliminary Negotiated Price, Cents Per Lb., Generally For Slaughter
The Week Of 29-Dec-2003**

	At Farm Buyer Loading
Southeast Region	Too Few Sales To Report Prices
South Central Region	Too Few Sales To Report Prices

**National Canner Fowl Market (Without Necks)
Cents Per Pound Delivered To First Receivers**

	(Freight Cost Included)		(Without Freight Cost)	
	Range	Majority	Range	Majority
Light Type	23.00-27.00	26.00	21.00-25.50	23.50-24.50
Heavy Type	31.50-38.00	35.50-37.50	29.00-36.00	34.00-35.00

Miscellaneous Poultry

**Ready-To-Cook Prices Negotiated For Delivery To First Receivers,
U.S. Grade A And Plant Grade, 5 Lbs. And Up
For Week Of December 22, 2003**

	Hens	Range	Mostly
Central	Ice Packed (12 Head Per Box)	58-65	-
	Vacuum Pack (6-9 Head Per Box)	66-76	
S. California	Under 5 Lbs.	TFEWR	-
	Over 5 Lbs.	60 - 63	